



IF 2164

CF-40

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Andrew C. Gilbert et al.
Application No. : 09/981,565 Confirmation No. : 7706
Filed : October 17, 2001
For : SYSTEMS AND METHODS FORS BID/OFFER
SPREAD TRADING

Group Art Unit : 2164

Commissioner for Patents New York, New York 10020
P.O. Box 1450 May 4. 2006
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

STATUS INQUIRY

Sir:

This patent application was filed October 17, 2001. Since that time, applicants have not received any Patent and Trademark Office action on the merits in connection with this application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Patent and Trademark Office communicate the current status of the above-identified patent application to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Hassan Albakri
Limited Recognition No. L0013
Agent for Applicants
FISH & NEAVE IP GROUP
ROPES & GRAY LLP
Customer No.: 1473
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10020-1105
Tel.: (212) 596-9000

I hereby certify that this
Correspondence is being
deposited with the U.S.
Postal Service as First
Class Mail in an envelope
Addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on
May 4, 2006
Signature: